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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 27-04

12:30 PM, September 2, 2004

HURRICANE CONDITION YANKEE (formally condition two) SET IN PORT CANAVERAL AND PONCE INLET

Effective at 18:00 hrs (6:00 p.m.) September 2, 2004, Port Hurricane Condition YANKEE (24 hrs to on-set of gale force winds) is set for Port Canaveral and Ponce Inlet. The Ports of Jacksonville and Fernandina, and St. Augustine Inlet, remain at port condition X-RAY pending forecast arrival of gale force winds. As of 11:00 a.m., Hurricane Frances is 450 miles ESE of Palm Beach, Florida, traveling 13 mph in a WNW direction. Wind speed is 145 MPH with gusts up to 180 MPH.

All mariners are reminded that there are no safe havens in the Captain of the Port Jacksonville area, and that the port is safest when the inventory of vessels is at a minimum. All oceangoing vessels and barges over 500 GT are requested to put to sea when Hurricane Condition Yankee is set. Oceangoing vessels over 500 GT that wish to remain in port must submit a **Remaining in Port Checklist** to the Captain of the Port, and should contact the Marine Safety Office immediately. When Condition Yankee is set, the port will be closed to unauthorized vessel movement, and cargo operation must stop. Inland tank barges must be emptied and secured, and dredges and construction equipment must be secured and moved away from bridges. Hurricane FRANCES is a very large and very powerful storm, and all marine interests must take early and substantial action to ensure safety of the port and vessels.

Please follow weather forecasts and reports closely as long-range predictions can change significantly. For additional information please contact LT J. Tedtaotao at (904) 232-2640 ext. 153.

D. L. Lersch Captain, U.S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port